

CLOSING EXERCISES OF THE HIGH SCHOOL

Eloquent Address of Rev. Dr. W. E. Evans.

IRON CROWN OF LOMBARDY

Lessons from its Iron and Gold-Encircled Bands.

THE SINGING OF THE CHORUS

Songs Greatly Please the Large Audience—The Chorus is Repeatedly Encored—Dixie and Bonnie Blue Flag Aroused Enthusiasm.

Mr. Mercer Congratulated—Recitations.

The exercises making the twenty-eighth annual commencement of the Richmond High School, held last night at the Masonic Temple, were notably beautiful, and in the highest measure creditable to the splendid institution which for a generation has served the city with increasing success and usefulness.

It is no fashion detracts from the completeness of previous High School occasions of this character to record the fact that the exercises of last night in attractiveness and interest surpassed them all.

That the young people were pleased with the success and beauty of their graduating exercises without saying more than one of those graduation days are somewhat more remote than they now count, left all with the comment that they had never been present at commencement exercises more attractively planned or more tastefully executed.

The features of the occasion, apart from the happiness of fresh young faces, and the congratulations of cousins and mothers and aunts, who had come from all parts of the city to be present at the graduation of some boy or girl, who is the center and the hope of a Richmond home somewhere, were the addresses of Rev. W. E. Evans, D. D., and the singing of the chorus of High School girls, trained and led by Mr. Walter C. Mercer.

DR. EVANS' ADDRESS.

In the selection of Dr. Evans, no mistake was made. This eloquent and attractive speaker is peculiarly happy in his addresses upon occasion of this character. Those who had heard him upon previous commencements agreed last night, that he was at his best. In the selection and development of his theme, he had been mindful that his address would be delivered to young people for the most part. In matters of delivery it was splendidly moulded into accord and harmony with the occasion, and the result was a masterpiece.

In return he received the speaker's most complete reward, the close and undivided interest and attention of his audience. The flowers and the dainty dresses and the diplomas were for a time forgotten, and the speakers and the lessons drawn from his gold encircled band of iron were followed, as Dr. Evans, after a very graceful and opportune "preamble," as he was pleased to style it in the words of an older told of the world's most reverend symbol of real achievement.

SPLENDID CHORUS SINGING.

Those acquainted with the work of the children's chorus of the Wednesday Club know of the character and thoroughness of the music training which the young people of the High School have received at the hands of their instructor, Mr. Walter C. Mercer. If there remained any doubting ones in or out of the City School Board who were still shaking their heads over the city's modest expenditure for music in the schools, the time of their conversion came last night. The singing of the High School chorus was well worth considerable inconvenience to hear. Apart from its mechanical and technical excellence and for these Mr. Mercer's name is sufficient guarantee, there was a life and spirit in the rendering of the old songs that Virginia audiences always love to hear that might have been lacking in music technically correct. Errors of enunciation expressed pleasure and enjoyment with which these young musicians' offerings to the evening's programme were received. Mr. Mercer and his chorus deserve the highest praise for the evidences the evening furnished of the thoroughness and excellence of their work.

GENEROUSLY APPLAUDED.

The opening numbers of the programme were well received and highly merited the generous applause which they received. Miss Edna L. Wall, Edna L. Wall, "Success," Miss Ollie Timberlake delivered an oration on "The Dream of Greatness," Miss Bessie Sutton's recitation was entitled "A Solemn Occasion," that of Miss Laura McCabe "Street Musicians," and that of Miss Lella Lucy "Managing a Male."

On the programme three songs had been arranged for the High School chorus—"Evering Bells" and "Hark, Soft Winds," which was called back again and again, and the audience was greatly delighted with other songs as well, among them the old songs of the South—"Dixie," "The Bonnie Blue Flag" and others.

The following young ladies were members of the chorus: Miss Edna L. Wall, Nannie Hall, Ollie Quares, Evelyn Haller, Mary McFadden, Lyle King, Allie Lee Penick, Mary Bluford, Ollie Quares, Florence Brown, Anna Nelson, Viola Dialect, Norma H. Masserschmidt, Lucie Tatum, Belle Block, Lella Clowes, Annie Kendler, Maybel C. Wyler, Ada Ffies, Hazelle Shackelford, Dora Garrison, Effie Pinsky, Nannie West, Brent Witt, Mattie Stagg, Jessie Stagg, Rebecca Williams, Edna L. Wall, Effie Prosser, Lorena Mason, Alice Owens, Mary Steinlein, Mary Washee, Margaret Daugherty, Langhorne Cosby, Evelyn Glenn, Lella Archer, Maria Hartung, Marie Taylor, Miss McCarthy, Lucy McCarthy, Monica Tarrow, Wina Newman, Mittie Points, Mary Parker, Alice Taylor, Lizzie Hall, Mary Lee, Edith Hewitt and Myrtle Embank.

A feature of the exercises was the presentation of a beautiful gold medal to the pupil of the public school who presented the best essay on some Revolutionary hero or heroine. This medal is given by the Old Dominion Chapter, Daughter American Revolution, and was presented to Archer Rowlett, of (Continued on Third Page)

Severe Storm Causes Death and Does Great Damage.

(By Associated Press.)

COLUMBUS, GA., June 16.—A terrific wind, rain and electrical storm did considerable damage at Aichland, situated twenty-nine miles from here on the Seaboard Air Line, this afternoon. J. M. Hurley, a peach merchant, was instantly killed by lightning, as he was packing peaches under a shed at the time and his wife, who was near him, was severely shocked.

The stores of Layfield & Bell, W. E. Etheridge, B. E. Mayo, S. Schappell, and the large Clegg building were unroofed and their stocks almost ruined by wind and water.

The new school dormitory, a negro new Christian Church, the new residence of Edward Woodward were blown to the ground, besides numerous small houses and shops, and trees were uprooted and gardens and crops are ruined. The peach crop suffered greatly.

AN INSANE NEGRO ESCAPES FROM JAIL

Pecks His Way Through a Two-Foot Wall With a Pine Stick.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

KEYSVILLE, VA., June 16.—Albert Cousins, who was examined for lunacy two weeks ago, and was confined in Lunenburg county jail waiting for the necessary papers to take him to the asylum, made his escape Friday night by pecking through a brick wall two feet thick with no other implement than an ordinary pine stick of wood.

Hon. Carter Glass, one of the candidates for Congress from the Sixth district, spent Saturday in town making the acquaintance of the people here and urged upon them his claims to Congress. He made a favorable impression upon all with whom he met, and will carry this precinct solidly, and from present prospects will no doubt secure the county by an overwhelming majority.

Herbert J. Morton, a student of H. S. College, is at his home for vacation. Dr. Thompson, of Lunenburg Courthouse, spent last night at his old home, "Morton Hall."

Misses Lev and Robson, teachers at the Virginia Home School, will return to their Alabama home to-day. It is said they will not return next session. They have many friends who regret this, as they have rendered themselves very popular here.

KING RECOVERS FROM CHILL AND PROCEEDS TO WINDSOR.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, June 16.—King Edward, who was attacked yesterday by lumbago, following a chill contracted while reviewing the troops at Aldershot, passed a good night and is now recovering. The King left Aldershot at 4:15 this afternoon for Windsor in a motor car. The King showed little trace of his recent illness. Their Majesties arrived at Windsor at 6 P. M.

King Edward bore the journey to Windsor well, but it has been decided that he will not go to Ascot tomorrow. Queen Alexandra, however, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the royal family, will attend the races in state.

The chill came as a result of the King's prolonged stay outdoors at the torchlight tattoo at Aldershot. The weather was cold and it rained at intervals between the royal couple left the brigade recreation ground. King Edward returned to his apartments chilled from the unwanted exposure.

Spoiled Review of Troops.

ALDERSHOT, ENGLAND, June 16.—The indisposition of King Edward and the incessant downpour of rain, combined to effectually spoil the grand review of troops here to-day. The King did not leave the royal pavilion and was represented by the Prince of Wales, who rode to the saluting point, accompanied by the Duke of Connaught and a brilliant staff, comprising several Indian princes, the military attaches, Lord Roberts, the commander-in-chief and the headquarters staff. Queen Alexandra drove to the parade ground in a closed carriage with the Princess of Wales and the Princess Victoria. In other carriages at the saluting point were the Duchess of Connaught and many of the notabilities who are visiting England.

More than 32,000 rain-soaked troops marched past the heir to the throne.

WORTH A MILLION DOLLARS TO FARMERS OF THE STATE

This is Mr. Evans' Estimate of the Value of Yesterday's Rain—Water Came Down in Torrents for Two Hours.

The heavy rainfall of yesterday was quite general throughout Virginia, and, according to the estimate of Mr. W. E. Evans, station director of the Weather Bureau, will be worth a million dollars to farmers in the State. Crops, which have been feeling the parching hand of the drought, will gather new life, and tobacco and wheat and corn and other agricultural products will begin to flourish again. The additional precipitation which is expected will only go to make the condition still more favorable.

While the downpour was exceptionally heavy for a while, it is hardly thought that it will result in producing any high water in James River at this place. Reports had not been received last night from the different weather bureau stations along the watershed. At 7 o'clock the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway had information to the effect that the river at Columbia was ten feet high and was falling; this would indicate that there will be no appreciable rise here.

A HEAVY DOWNPOUR.

It looked to the uninitiated, however, as if enough water came out of the sky into Richmond yesterday afternoon to flood any river on the face of the earth. For two mortal hours it came down in sheets, and while farmers or those interested in the outcome of the crops were sitting at home surveying the scene with great satisfaction and calmly congratulating themselves, ordinary human beings on the outside were floating around disconsolately. Umbrellas were utterly useless.

CANDIDATES ON GOOD BEHAVIOR

Lamb and Wallace Meet in Goochland.

WERE NOT VERY BITTER

Did Not Repeat the Chesterfield Performance.

BOTH GOOD HAND-SHAKERS

Candidates Worked Hard All Day in the Steady Rain and Were Cheered by Their Followers—One Faction for Lamb, the Other for Wallace—Interesting Debate.

(Staff Correspondence.)

GOOCHLAND C. H., VA., June 16.—Congressman John Lamb and Mr. Jefferson Wallace met in joint debate here to-day before about an average sized court day crowd.

Sentiment was evidently divided, and both the speakers were liberally applauded by their respective friends. Captain Lamb was presented by ex-Senator F. M. Parrish in highly complimentary terms, while Commonwealth's Attorney David H. Leake introduced Mr. Wallace as the next Congressman from the Third District.

Mr. Wallace came up yesterday and spent the night with friends near the courthouse. He was early upon the ground to-day, conferring with his leaders.

Captain Lamb arrived here a little after 11 o'clock to-day, and he and Mr. Wallace both put in good time shaking hands and talking with their friends until court adjourned and they were given the cheer.

RAINED ALL DAY.

Rein fell steadily from about 11 o'clock, but so very dry was the ground that there was no tobacco planting season to keep the voters at home, so they were out in large numbers to greet the congressional aspirants.

The situation here is a peculiar one, as regards the congressional race. The Democratic party in Goochland has long been divided into bitter factions, and for many years they have pined up on opposite sides in every primary campaign. The present struggle is no exception, and to-day Mr. Wallace had the earnest (Continued on Tenth Page.)

Five Lives Are Lost As Result of Cloudburst.

(By Associated Press.)

BARRIE, VT., June 16.—In addition to great property damage caused by a cloudburst over this section late last night five railroad men lost their lives by a freight train on the Central Vermont Railroad running into a washout at Middlesex.

The dead include the conductor, engineer and fireman and two brakemen. The train consisted of a locomotive and twelve cars. Passing through Middlesex it was running at a fair rate of speed, when it struck a ditch washout by a torrent of water. The locomotive leaped into the ditch and the freight cars piled up on top of it. The trainmen were buried under the ruins.

The cloudburst caused a great deal of other damage. The railroad bridge at Bolton was destroyed, a saw-mill, together with the house adjoining it, was demolished in the town of Middlesex. One hundred thousand feet of logs were carried away.

NOT TO BE LIVELY, BUT FAR FROM IT

Every Indication That Illinois Convention Will Follow Conservative Lines

(By Associated Press.)

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., June 16.—There is every indication that the Democratic State Convention, which meets here tomorrow, will be one of the most conservative Democratic conventions held in this State in recent years. Many delegates are here who have not attended a State gathering of the party in eight to ten years, and there is among them a strong disposition to steer wide of sensationalism. It is practically certain that there will be nothing in the platform favoring W. J. Bryan or free silver.

Among the men opposed to declarations on these points are some men who have been in the past enthusiastic partisans of the man from Lincoln.

The convention will declare hotly against "government by injunction," and it is expected that the platform will contain a ringing provision to that effect. Samuel Aleschuler has been stated for the chairmanship of the Committee on Resolutions. He has declared that he does not care for an endorsement for United States Senator, and the present feeling of the delegates is that no action will be taken in this direction in favor of any body. There is considerable indecision, however, on this point, and the sentiment may change decidedly. The purpose of the convention is to nominate candidates for State treasurer and for Representative in Congress. The nomination of Millard F. Dunlap, of Jacksonville, for State treasurer, is regarded as certain.

LOUIS DISBROW MAY SELL ALL

ARMED COAL MINERS GO ON LONG MARCH

Their Guns Taken from Them and They Proceed Peaceably.

RANKS REACH SIX HUNDRED

Some Miners Leave Nearly Every Passing Point, but No Serious Results are Anticipated—The Anthracite Strike Drags Along.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

BLUEFIELD, W. VA., June 16.—According to the programme of the agitators to-day was to be the crucial day of the strike in the Flat Top field. Sunday mass-meetings were held at the various operations and the speakers urged upon the miners the advisability of joining the ranks of the strikers.

In several instances the agitators predicted dire results if the miners did not quit work.

One outgrowth of Sunday's meeting was a march on the part of the striking miners. The march was organized on Simmons Creek. One hundred and thirty men and boys, armed with guns, marched toward the Mill Creek operation above Mill Creek and Coaldale, where they were met by officers of the law, accompanied by a labor leader.

MINERS DISARMED.

They were told by the officers that they could go no further on the railroad property unless they discarded their guns. The labor leader advised them to do this, and his advice was followed. Up to this time it seems dreams have been much in evidence, and intimidation methods were employed to frighten non-union

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ALL SORTS LABOR TROUBLE IN NORFOLK

Painters Send Strong Delegation. The Plumbers and Contractors at Odds.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

NORFOLK, VA., June 16.—A delegation of Norfolk navy yard painters, headed by Hon. George E. Bowden and Senator Marland, and accompanied by Senator Maynard, waited upon the Secretary of the Navy to present the painters' protest against the proposition to discontinue the yard by employing first-class men on second-class work at second-class wages.

The men have practically struck, as they say they will resign in preference to discharging themselves.

The journeymen plumbers of Norfolk, numbering about fifty and seventy-five men, unanimously refused to go to work this morning, and the strike, which has been anticipated for some days, is on in earnest. The master plumbers appear to be standing firm in their refusal to disperse, with the help, as the journeymen demand they shall do, and the outlook at present is that the strikers and their employers will fight it out until one or the other tires.

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Three afterwards returned, but apparently indicate that a general strike of the carpenters may occur shortly.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IS UP AGAINST THE REAL THING

The Beet Sugar Senators are Standing Like a Stone Wall and the President on Verge of a Regular Back-down in Regard to His Cuban Message.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16.—From certain talk among the Republican leaders in the Senate this morning and certain occurrences at the White House, it seems now clearly understood that President Roosevelt is on the verge of a clean back down on the Cuban reciprocity bill. Not only will he back down, it is said, but he will endeavor in doing so to throw the burden of the proposed plan for relieving Cuba on the shoulders of the late President McKinley by declaring that the defeat on reciprocity would not be a defeat of his own proposition; that he has no particular pride in it nor ambition for it himself, but was supporting it as a heritage from President McKinley.

He will not trouble with more conferences nor follow up any further insistence of his message of last Friday.

The truth is Teddy is cutting a few eyes teeth, and from being a riotous Rough Rider, reeking with notions of reform, he is fast developing into a good little Republican boy of the machine made type, who will do just what those older Republican boys in the Senate tell him to do.

All this, it is said, is the result of a conference held by the beet sugar Sena-

tors last night, after which they let it be understood that the President's message had in nowise affected their attitude on the question. There were thirteen present and five proxies, and they found that not one of their number was weakening.

Their position is simply this: They are fighting for their political lives, for they know legislation to pass that will ruin the beet sugar industry, their constituencies will leave no stone unturned to accomplish the defeat of Senators and Representatives also. Moreover, it has been an open secret all along that few if any of the Senators who were apparently acting with the administration really cared anything for the passage of the twenty per cent. reduction measure, but were only doing it to jolly Roosevelt along.

They are not and never have been anxious to stir up enmity among the Senators of their party, and it is more than probable that they have given Roosevelt to understand that it would be wise for him to refrain from pressing Cuban tariff legislation any further at this session, so the matter will doubtless be dropped and not acted upon this session.

This will be a complete back down for Roosevelt, the first of the kind he has ever been known to be guilty of, and it will probably prove the initial one of a number of instances in which he will succumb to the stubbornness of the Senate, which august body has ever resented being driven by the Executive.

Believed He Could Throw Light on Shinnecock Case.

NO MARKS OF VIOLENCE

Body of Miss Lawrence, Buried Yesterday, Revealed None.

SHE WAS REPORTED MISSING

The Important Witness Was Said to Have Been Lost Sight of, but His Father Says He Will be Produced and that Developments May be Expected.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, June 16.—Thomas A. Disbrow, father of Louis A. Disbrow, the young man whom the Suffolk county, Long Island, authorities say can throw light on the mystery surrounding the drowning of Sarah Lawrence and Clarence Foster, is credited to-night with knowing the whereabouts of Louis, and with being ready to produce him alive if necessary. The Press to-morrow will quote Mr. Disbrow as saying:

"Since 6 o'clock this (Monday) evening I have received information which justifies me in making the statement that there will be important developments in the case within twenty-four hours."

Bright lights illuminated the Disbrow cottage to-night. The atmosphere of gloom and despondency which surrounded everything on Sunday had disappeared. WAS REPORTED TO BE MISSING.

NEW YORK, June 16.—Louis Disbrow, who, the authorities believe, can clear up a good portion of the mystery which surrounds the drowning of Miss Sarah Lawrence and Clarence Foster, in Shinnecock Bay, has not been heard from. The girl was buried to-day at River Head, L. I., and an examination of the body before it was placed in the grave did not reveal any marks of violence.

Coroner Nugent and District Attorney Smith, of Suffolk county, decided to-day, after a conference, to take up the case Wednesday at Good Ground, L. I. They will examine several people and then decide as to what further steps to take to discover if the drowning was other than accidental.

Thomas Disbrow, of Richmond, Va., L. I., father of Louis Disbrow, was asked to-day whether he thought it was his son that jumped from the Brooklyn bridge yesterday. Mr. Disbrow said that the description given of the man who committed suicide answered in some respects to that of his son, but that he knew of no reason why he should have desired to end his life. It was possible, he thought, that his son's mind had become unbalanced on account of the notoriety brought upon him by his connection with the tragedy at Good Ground.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS

FORECAST.

Generally fair to-day, except showers on the coast; fair and warmer Wednesday, with occasional showers; Thursday, with highest temperature yesterday..... 59
Lowest temperature yesterday..... 29
Mean temperature yesterday..... 43
Normal temperature for June..... 60
Departure from normal temperature..... -17
Precipitation during past 24 hours..... .288

LOCAL.

Commencement exercises of High School held last night; fine address by Rev. Dr. W. E. Evans.

Great downpour of rain throughout the State yesterday; small streams rose rapidly.

Captain Lamb and Mr. Wallace met in joint debate at Goochland Courthouse.

Miss Edna L. Wall, of the City School Board, was given poisoned whiskey.

Lieutenant John W. Starke to be tried by court-martial to-day.

Mr. Weller acquitted on a technicality, but the Commonwealth's attorney will draw another indictment.

Members of the Council met in conference to-night to nominate officers.

Rev. Mr. Downman in his sermon on Sunday commended the falling off in the attendance upon church services.

Death yesterday of Mr. Montgomery West.

Body of Mr. B. L. Winston buried in Hollywood.

The striking miners march in the coal fields with Winchester, but are disarmed.

Mr. Caton, of Alexandria, says he would bitterly fight any attack on the "Jim Crow" law as applied to the Mt. Vernon Railway.

James Lane Allen addresses the literary societies at the University of Virginia.

The Albert Synes won the boat race at Lexington. Interesting commencement exercises.

A mail carrier nearly drowned in Fluvanna in crossing a swollen stream.

The Cape Henry Railroad enjoined from using locomotives at Virginia Beach.

A man drowned in the slip at Newport News.

The Hygeia Hotel to be moved to a better location on the Appomattox near Petersburg.

GENERAL.

King Edward suffers a chill from exposure, and recovers rapidly and returns to Windsor.

Loss of life and great property damage at Barre, Vt., and Columbus, Ga., from a cloudburst and heavy rain.

Wide difference of opinion as to what the President should do if the House defeats the Cuban reciprocity bill.

Secretary Root assumes full responsibility for payment of money to Gomez by General Weyler.

Mr. Bryan says it is too early yet to discuss issues for the next campaign, but suggests imperialism and the currency as two.

Double drowning at Shinnecock Bay still a mystery, and young man who might throw light on it missing.

Republican senators far apart on reciprocity bill and the result in doubt.

Judge Advocate General Lemly placed on retired list, but will retain his office.

House Committee on Civil Service Reforms sustains the dismissal of Miss Taylor.

Democratic Convention of Illinois, which meets to-day, will keep within conservative lines.